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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 49 No. 29 Pages: 12 Rs. 3.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 22 / 23
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MYSURU Monday 16th March 2026
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Footpath becomes... Tonga Stand!

- Footpath dug up for 'Tonga Experience Centre' near Town Hall
- MCC gives 'No Objection Certificate,' but later stops work on footpath

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MTY&BCT)-Months after the Mysuru City Police had constructed concrete-based Police Information Kiosks near the Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple at Balarama Gate of Mysore Palace, which was later demolished for violating heritage norms, another controversial structure is now coming up on a footpath near the Town Hall.

The Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) had initially issued a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the construction, but has now asked the work to be stopped after realising that the structure was being built on a footpath meant for pedestrians.

The proposed structure is part of the Central Government's Swadesh Darshan 2.0 project under which heritage tonga stands, called 'Tonga Experience Centres,' are planned in the city. The overall project cost is Rs. 17 crore, of which Rs. 1.90 crore has been earmarked for the Tonga Experience Centres.

Footpath near Town Hall

One such centre was proposed near the Town Hall, attached to its compound wall close to Chamaraja Circle on the road leading to Ashoka Road. Work had begun at the site, with portions of the footpath dug up and bricks and stones placed for the construction of the concrete structure.

Currently, Mysuru's tonga stands operate near Kukkarahalli Lake, Agrahara Circle and the Old RMC Yard Bus Stand. Under the new plan, these stands are to be brought under one roof at designated 'Tonga Experience Centres' where shelters, ticket counters and queue lines will be provided.

(See TONGA STAND on page 7)

Footpath dug up for 'Tonga Experience Centre' near Town Hall, Mysuru.

State Govt. gives nod to host IPL at Chinnaswamy Stadium

The State Government today formally granted permission for Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) to host IPL matches at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. The inaugural match between RCB and SRH will be held on Mar. 28. *[See page 2]*

Intl. Women's Day Special...

To commemorate International Women's Day-2026 and to celebrate women from different fields, *Star of Mysore* is publishing special interviews and articles during the month.

Today *SOM* features the journey, inspiration and the vision behind 'Panache,' the fashion exhibition platform co-founded by the sisters, Nishat Mohsin & Misba Umrean. **—Ed**

[Turn to page 6]

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 16th March 2026

Mega health camp held

Mysuru, Mar. 16 - A free mega health camp, organised by Rotary Club of Mysuru Diamond, Dattagalli, in association with Rotary Club of J.P. Nagar, Swasthi Ortho & ENT Clinic, Sushrutha Eye Hospital, Mission Hospital, Chethan Diagnostics and Apollo BGS Hospital was held at Rotary School in Dattagalli recently.

Charter President of Rotary Club of Mysuru Diamond Rtn. PHF CMA Anil Saldanha welcomed and thanked Rotary School Chairman Rtn. Captain Chandrashekar for providing the venue for the camp.

The camp was led by Orthopaedic Surgeon Rtn. Dr. T. Madhusudhan with support from ENT specialist Dr. K. Neethu Priya, Pulmonologist Dr. M. Mamatha, ECG Consultant Dr. Sarah and other medical professionals. Free medicines were distributed to the needy.

More than 180 members of public benefited from the free camp. Rtn. Raghavendra proposed the vote of thanks. Zonal Lieutenant Rtn. Bopanna, President of Dattagalli Green Foundation M.N. Nataraj, Secretary Nagendra Kumar, Club Secretary Rtn. C. Suresh and members of Rotary Diamond were present.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE PERSONAL IN MASS MEDITATION: ***On World Youth Day 2026, 30,000 youngsters joined a popular guru in meditation. The large numbers somehow gave the impression that the benefit of the process is uniform for all the participants. This is misleading as the rewards are unique to each person. The theory and philosophy of yoga help us to understand this a lot better.***

Both yoga and meditation are about refining intelligence and consciousness. The benefits then become personal. The physical and calming benefits are merely part of the process.

In both Patanjali's Yogasutras and the Bhagvad Gita, the process is the path to liberation. Krishna's discourse to Arjuna is deeply philosophical. It gets into the concept of pure consciousness or purusha, which comes into being only in conjunction with the material world. It experiences the material world through the sense organs. In doing so it becomes deluded, misled and entangled virtually in the clutches of the illusory material manifestations. Liberating the consciousness from the deviousness and tyranny of the ego is then the main purpose of meditation.

Patanjali talks of first preparing the body and mind for this task. The Sadhanapada deals with the afflictions of the body and the need to overcome these through yoga. The beginner or the less adept can stop right at this point with ample benefits. This fits into the concept of Karmayoga. The Samadhipada is about reining in the mind and the confusions of consciousness itself. The Bhagvad Gita likewise guides the mind to a state of equanimity. The mind is made calm by contemplating on desire, the object of desire, truth and non-attachment.

Refinement of knowledge happens only when the difference between contemplation and the object being contemplated upon vanishes. The illusion of the material world, the various manifestations and the ability of the ego to misguide, are all sorted out. This is the concept of the Vibhutipada. It is also the path of Janna yoga.

Beyond this stage, is the Kaivalya pada. It deals with vairagya, complete renunciation and detachment. This is the point at which intelligence merges with consciousness. The ego ceases to have power over both. It is the state of joy and bliss.

The joy of meditation comes from the total freedom it allows the practitioner. There is no restriction on the path chosen or the time taken to achieve the desired goal. It is an intimately individual choice with unique and ever-surprising rewards.

— Jamuna Rao in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Langur drives KSRTC bus for a while!

Davangere: A langur took the wheels of a KSRTC bus last October, a video of which has gone viral on social media.

The driver from KSRTC's Davanagere Division, even lets the animal operate the steering wheel of the vehicle and change the gears. The driver has since been taken off duty for endangering the lives of the passengers on the bus. However, the Internet is divided over the driver's suspension.

The video shows a grey langur, locally known as Hanuman langur, taking charge of the wheels as the driver laughs at the animal's antics. The driver was seen patting the langur's back several times as the animal sat on the steering wheel of the bus, plying from Davanagere to Bharamasagara.

Pig with 1.1 million followers!

California: A 4-year-old porcine social media star living in California earned the Guinness World Records title for the most followers on Instagram for a pig: 1.1 million.

The record-keeping organisation said Merlin the Pig had 1.1 million followers on Instagram as of Feb. 23, earning him the title. Owner Mina Alali adopted the now-4-year-old pig in March 2022 and started training him when he was just 3 months old.

Videos shared on Merlin's Instagram page show him using buttons placed around the house to play voice recordings that specify his current needs and desires.

"Now, at 4 years old, Merlin has over 30 buttons in the house that he uses regularly, sparking conversation online about just how intelligent, emotional and human-like pigs can be when given the time, patience and positive reinforcement," Guinness World Records said.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Diabetes & Kidney Disease

Diabetes is a leading cause of kidney disease. Proper blood sugar control and periodic kidney function tests can help prevent long-term kidney damage.

By Centre For Renal Sciences
Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

It's official: Chinnaswamy Stadium to host IPL matches from Mar. 28

Bengaluru, Mar. 16 (VNS)- The State Government has formally granted permission for Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) to host Indian Premier League (IPL) matches at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here from Mar. 28.

During a meeting presided by Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar at Vidhana Soudha this morning, the State Government constituted Expert Committee presented its report outlining the preparedness and compliance measures undertaken.

"Based on the recommendations of the Committee and after reviewing the arrangements, the Home Minister formally accorded approval for the conduct of the upcoming IPL matches at Chinnaswamy Stadium," stated a press release from KSCA Official Spokesperson Vinay Mruthyunjaya.

He also mentioned that KSCA would extend full co-operation to Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in hosting the IPL matches in a safe, well-coordinated and professionally managed manner, ensuring a memorable experience for cricket lovers.

Today's meeting was attended by Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh, KSCA President Venkatesh Prasad, representatives of RCB, DNA and others.

It may be recalled, the State Government had imposed a ban on hosting matches at Chinnaswamy Stadium following the death of 11 youths and injuries to others during RCB's IPL victory celebrations on June 4 last year.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **110.44 feet**	Today's level **2,268.92 feet**	Today's level **2,829.86 feet**
Last year's level **109.93 feet**	Last year's level **2,271.37 feet**	Last year's level **2,834.67 feet**
Yesterday's level **110.82 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,269.14 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,829.88 feet**
Today's Inflow **157 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **85 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **222 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,479 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,200 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Bluefin tuna are some of the fastest fish in the sea. They have streamlined bodies and can even retract their dorsal and pectoral fins to reduce drag in the water.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

After finishing dinner in a restaurant, the wife told her husband, give some tip to the waiter. Husband called the waiter and said: "DON'T GET MARRIED!"

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 92.58
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 122.56
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 25.20
1 Euro	= Rs. 105.66

VOICE OF THE READER

Caved-in road bridge not repaired yet

Sir,

We wish to draw the attention of the civic authorities to a serious safety concern at I-Block, 2nd Main Road, Ramakrishnanagar, behind Indraloka Choultry, where a road bridge over a canal collapsed more than four months ago.

In November 2025, the deck on 2nd Main Road built over the canal suddenly caved in at around 11.10 am. Fortunately, no pedestrians or vehicles were passing at that moment, averting a possible accident and injuries.

A passerby immediately alerted us and the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) authorities were informed. Officials visited the spot, inspected the damage and reportedly submitted an estimate to the higher authorities within a week.

However, no repair work has been taken up so far. Residents have met the concerned engineer and other senior officials, requesting them to expedite the work, but only assurances have been given. The matter has also been brought to the notice of our elected representatives, but no action has followed.

Despite repeated requests, the MCC authorities have not responded positively, leaving tax-paying residents to suffer due to official apathy. The issue was also raised at the 'Janaspandana' meeting held at the MCC Zone-3 Office in Sharadadevinagar, but it has yielded no result.

As a last resort, we request the MCC Commissioner, through the columns of your newspaper, to look into the seriousness of the issue and take up repair works at the earliest, before the onset of the rainy season.

—Narayana Prasad, P.G. Raman and other residents
Ramakrishnanagar I-Block
10.3.2026

Intl. Conference on "Intellectual Property Management" tomorrow

Mysuru, Mar. 16- The Department of Botany (UG & PG) in association with IQAC, Teresian College for Women, Mysuru, is organising an International Conference on "Intellectual Property Management in the Era of Scientific Advancements" tomorrow (Mar. 17) at 9.30 am at its Ave Maria Golden Jubilee Auditorium in Siddarthanagar.

The Conference will be inaugurated by keynote speaker Dr. Giridhar Parvatam, Director, CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru.

Rev. Dr. Sr. Rohini, Principal, Dr. C. Jeyanthi, Dean of Science and Vivek Charls, IQAC Co-ordinator will be present.

The Conference will also include technical sessions by eminent resource persons such as Dr. M.V. Sunil, Assistant Professor, SDM-IMD, Mysuru; Sunethra Sudhakar Derebaii, Team Manager for Life Sciences, S&H Partners, Bengaluru and Dr. Jyothis Devasia, Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. The sessions will cover patent law, copyright management, data privacy and ethics in artificial intelligence, technology transfer and strategies for safeguarding innovations in scientific research.

The Conference aims to promote awareness about the crucial role of Intellectual Property (IP) management in protecting scientific innovations and fostering technological progress.

It will bring together graduate and postgraduate students, research scholars, academicians to discuss the role of intellectual property in today's rapidly evolving scientific land scape.

For details contact Organising Secretaries Dr. B. Sapna (99451-00494) or Dr. Nilina James (73490-62422).

Duplin Complex row

We are not scared of MDA!

Unfazed by eviction move, traders assert ownership

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (BLU&BCT)-A day after Mysuru Development Authority (MDA) Commissioner K.R. Rakshith stated that a public hearing will be held on Mar. 18 to initiate eviction proceedings against tenants allegedly occupying shops illegally at Duplin Complex in Shivarampet, the Duplin Complex Traders' Association has dismissed the concerns.

Girish, President of the Association, said their legal advisors have reassured shop owners not to worry about the Commissioner's remarks as they officially hold ownership of their shops.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* yesterday, he said the shop owners possess sale deeds, which their legal advisors have already verified. According to him, officials of the erstwhile Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) had issued sale deeds along with title deeds to the traders years ago.

While Commissioner Rakshith maintained that MUDA engineers had not registered the shops, Girish said all the documents had been shown to their legal advisors, who confirmed that the shops are officially registered with MUDA. "Therefore, there is no need for concern," he added.

Meanwhile, Rakshith said that under the Karnataka Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1974, conducting a public hearing is mandatory before initiating eviction proceedings. The move follows a recent High Court order.

He added that the occupants had earlier been given time till the first week of March to vacate the shops voluntarily. In the first phase, eviction proceedings will be initiated against 21 shops identified as unauthorised after the public hearing.

However, Girish pointed out that the venue of the hearing has not yet been disclosed. He also noted that the hearing is scheduled just a day before the Ugadi festival, when business activity is at its peak and traders usually are extremely busy handling the festival crowd.

Nevertheless, he said the traders would participate in the public hearing once the venue is communicated.

Shabe-Khadar celebrations tonight

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (KS) - Muslim brethren will be celebrating Shabe-Khadar Namaz-e-Isha Prayers (Night Prayer) at various mosques in city tonight. The prayer timings are as follows:

9 pm: Masjid Hali Meamoon Jamath on Vinoba Road, Masjid Firdose and Kousar Masjid at Bannimantap 'C' Layout; **9.15 pm:** Masjid Khairulwara at Rajivnagar 2nd Stage; **9.30 pm:** Masjid Khudadad at Rajivnagar; **10 pm:** Jamiya Masjid on Irwin Road, Masjid Azam Markaz Ahle Sunnath-wal-Jamath on Ashoka Road, Masjid Rehamaniya, Mysuru South, Mecca Masjid at Rajivnagar, Masjid Syed Ahmed at S.A. Layout in Rajivnagar, Masjid Ya Rub at Kalyanagiri, Masjid Meer Hayath Saheb, near Muslim Burial Grounds in Mandi Mohalla, Masjid Jyothi Nagar, Masjid Shouda-e-Badar One Minaret at Shantinagar, Masjid Quba at Udayagiri, Masjid Akbree at Haleemnagar, Masjid Noor at Ghousianagar, Masjid Madeena at Kythamaranahalli; **10.30 pm:** Eidgah Masjid on Mission Hospital Road, Masjid Shahi in Lashkar Mohalla, Masjid Aqsa, near Fountain Circle. For details, contact area Masjid Managements.

Advocate Renu Poonacha felicitated

As part of International Women's Day celebrations, Vaghdevi Vanitha Vrunda, Bannimantap, felicitated city's noted Advocate Kaliyanda Renu Poonacha (Muthamma) at function held at Kodagu Sahakara Sangha in Jayalakshmipuram on Mar. 10. She is seen with Vaghdevi Vanitha Vrunda President Balliyamanda Gangu Poovaiah, Secretary Swaraj Ashwini Kumar and Committee Members.

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NEWS BRIEFS

PG-CET training workshop

S.K. Education Society, located on first floor, MUDA Complex, Kalidasa Road, Vijayanagar I Stage, Mysuru, has organised a one-day training workshop for PG-CET exam, on Mar. 30. Those interested, can register their names before Mar. 25. The exam will be held on May 15. For more details and registration, contact Mob:90353-25697 or 63645-09489, according to a press release.

Mass Upanayana

As part of Adi Jagadguru Shankaracharya Jayanti, Vipra Jagruti Vedike has organised mass Upanayana for Trimatastha Brahmin community boys at Avani Shankar Mutt in Vidyaranyapuram on Apr. 20. For details, contact Mob: 92422-05331 or 94499-20029 or 94834-85262, according to a press release.

Ph.D awardee

H. Anitha has been awarded Ph.D in Mathematics by the University of Mysore (UoM), Mysuru, for her thesis titled 'A study on some contributions to the Graph Theory' submitted under the guidance of Dr. Shanmukha.

LPG supply: Crematoria manage with existing stock

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (PM&BS)- Even as the hospitality sector continues to bear the brunt of the disruption in supply of commercial LPG cylinders following the US-Israel war on Iran, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) crematoria near the foot of Chamundi Hill and at 'K' Block in Kuvempunagar currently have adequate stock of cylinders to keep the facilities running.

However, officials said that if the current situation continues without a normal supply, the environment-friendly LPG-based cremation facilities may have to be temporarily suspended.

They clarified that this would not significantly affect cremations, as both crematoria are also equipped with traditional firewood-based systems. MCC officials said, the existing LPG stock is expected to last for about one-and-a-half months.

At both crematoria, only one body can be cremated at a time using the LPG facility and the process requires at least one-and-a-half cylinders per cremation. However, most families prefer the crematorium near the foot of Chamundi Hill, while the Kuvempunagar facility handles only one or two cremations a week.

The crematorium at 'K' Block in Kuvempunagar also has a burial facility, with a portion of the premises reserved exclusively for burials.

Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) crematorium near the foot of Chamundi Hill. Picture right shows the crematorium at 'K' Block in Kuvempunagar.

Chandrashekar, contractor of the MCC crematorium near the foot of Chamundi Hill and his staff confirmed the officials' statements regarding the availability of LPG stock.

Meanwhile, the Muktidhama Hi-tech Crematorium, built by the Mysuru Development Authority (MDA) at Vijayanagar 4th Stage in 2016 and later handed over to MCC for operation and maintenance, has both LPG and electric cremation facilities.

The LPG-based system is currently non-functional due to machinery repairs, though the electric crematorium continues to operate.

Residents have blamed MCC officials for the delay in completing the repair works. The crematorium has two LPG-based units and six firewood-based units, but the LPG facility has remained defunct for a long time.

Srivatsa seeks pet crematorium, vehicles to transport carcasses

Srivatsa

Bengaluru, Mar. 16 (BLU& BCT)- Krishnaraja MLA T.S. Srivatsa has urged the State Government to establish a dedicated crematorium for pets and provide ambulance-type vehicles to transport animal carcasses within the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) limits.

Raising the issue in the Assembly on Thursday, Srivatsa said, there was a need to ensure dignified disposal of pets after death.

He noted that many residents rear cows for a livelihood, while others keep dogs, cats and even horses used for tongas. While those owning private land may bury smaller pets such as dogs and cats, there is no provision for the disposal of larger animals like cows and horses, making the establishment of a pet crematorium necessary.

He pointed out that carcasses of animals killed in accidents on the Outer Ring Road and other parts of the city often remain unattended. In several cases, dogs that die after being run over by vehicles are left on the road, as there is no ambulance-like facility to remove the bodies.

He said, dumping carcasses in drains tarnishes Mysuru's image as a 'Clean City.' When vehicles run over carcasses, the bodies get mutilated and if left unattended, decompose and emit foul odour for days, he added.

Srivatsa urged the Government to provide the Corporation with ambulance-type vehicles to transport animal carcasses. Such vehicles, he suggested, could also be used by pet owners to transport deceased animals.

He further proposed that if space is available near human crematoriums, a separate facility for pets could be established there. Otherwise, a suitable site should be identified for constructing a dedicated crematorium. Burial, he cautioned, could spread infections if the animal had died of disease, making cremation a safer option.

Responding on behalf of Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge appreciated the proposal, saying the idea was unprecedented in the country.

He noted that Mysuru already has a five-acre facility at Rayanakere for the disposal of animal waste. Small animal carcasses are transported in garbage autos, while larger ones are taken in tippers for burial.

Kharge said, establishing a separate crematorium for animals within the premises of human crematoriums was a good suggestion and assured the House that the matter would be brought to the notice of the concerned Minister for appropriate action.

Girl's cash, gold worth over Rs. 1.30 lakh stolen in city bus

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (PM&KS)- A girl travelling in a KSRTC city bus has lost her cash and gold jewellery worth over Rs. 1.30 lakh.

On Feb. 23, the girl, an office admin at a private company in city, wanted to go to her native to take part in village festival and packed her clothes. She also kept 13.14 gram gold earrings, 2.37 gram finger ring and Rs. 2,500 cash in a bag. In the evening, she boarded a bus from Akshay Bhandar to City Bus Stand during which her cash and valuables, all worth Rs.1,32,232 were stolen.

Based on the complaint from the girl, Devaraja Police have registered an FIR on Mar. 14 and are investigating.

Veteran litterateur Dr. CPK bereaved

H.K. Sharada

Mysuru, Mar. 16- H.K. Sharada (81), wife of veteran litterateur Dr. C.P. Krishnakumar (CPK) and a resident of Vinayakanagar (Paduvarahalli) in city, passed away at a private hospital here yesterday following brief illness.

A native of Dodda Hanasoge village in K.R. Nagar taluk, Sharada got married to Dr. CPK in 1962. She leaves behind her husband Dr. CPK, son Dr. C.K. Sriharsha, a doctor at Brindavan Hospital in Jayalakshmipuram, three daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Her other daughter, a doctor by profession, passed away last year.

A host of writers, well-wishers and other personalities have condoled her death.

Last rites were performed at Chirashantidhama in Gokulam this afternoon, according to family sources.

High Court sentences four to life in triple murder case

Bengaluru, Mar. 16 (Agencies)- The Karnataka High Court has sentenced four migrant workers to life imprisonment in the triple murder case that had shocked Bengaluru 17 years ago.

The judgment was delivered by a Division Bench led by Justice H.P. Sandesh after allowing an appeal filed by the prosecution against the acquittal order passed by the 65th City Civil and Sessions Court in Bengaluru.

The four convicts have been identified as Deepak Haldar, his wife Suchitra Haldar, Mohammed Sarbal and Bidhan Shikari, all migrant workers from West Bengal.

The case relates to the brutal murder of retired Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Professor Purushottam Lal Sachdev, his wife Rita and their specially abled son Deepak Sachdev alias Munna at their RT Nagar residence in 2009.

According to the prosecution, Deepak Haldar and Suchitra Haldar were employed as domestic workers at the victims' residence. Taking advantage of their familiarity with the household, the accused allegedly strangled all three family members on Feb. 16, 2009, and escaped with gold jewellery and cash.

The High Court observed that the crime was committed purely for financial gain and termed the act as extremely grave, noting that the accused had killed innocent people who had trusted them.

The murders took place in 2009. In 2016, the Trial Court had acquitted the accused. The State Government later challenged that order in the High Court, which has now set aside the acquittal and sentenced them to life imprisonment.

The Bench directed the four convicts, who are currently outside custody, to surrender before the Trial Court within two weeks. They will then be sent to prison to serve the remaining period of their life sentence.

Kukkarahalli Lake land project sparks protest

Park land converted into commercial zone, allege activists; owner claims purchase is legal

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (BLU&BCT)- After an alleged attempt to encroach upon a 6.10-acre lake at K.C. Layout (Kempu Cheluvajammanni Layout) near the foot of Chamundi Hill by fencing the area, another encroachment row has surfaced in the city, this time concerning land on the banks of Kukkarahalli Lake.

Environmentalists staged a protest this morning opposing the construction of an apartment complex on a 2.20-acre land parcel, which is the lake buffer zone, opposite the Srikantadatta Narasimharaja Wadiyar Stadium (earlier called Gangothri Glades) on Open-Air Theatre Road inside the Manasagangothri campus.

The protesters alleged that certain private parties had converted Government land with the assistance of some officials of the erstwhile Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) on Feb. 3, 2021.

According to them, sites (1/4A, 1/4B, 1/4C, 1/4D, 1/5A, 1/5B, 1/5C and 1/5D) were formed near Bhudevi Farm in an area originally reserved for a public park and later converted into a commercial zone.

Pointing out that Kukkarahalli Lake is an important ecological zone, the environmentalists said the area has, over the years, become a sanctuary for birds and a vital green space for walkers and nature lovers.

Originally 400 acres

"The lake was originally developed by the Mysore rulers across more than 400 acres. Today, due to urban encroachment, only about 100 acres of the lake and around 110 acres of its surrounding area remain," they said.

They also alleged that a 14-storey commercial complex is proposed on the land. "How can MUDA convert park land into a commercial zone? A signboard regarding development has already been put up here. This is part of the lake land buffer zone and a walking area that serves as a lung space for the city. How can such land be commercialised?" they questioned.

The activists warned that commercial and multi-storey constructions around the lake would damage its fragile ecosystem and urged authorities to immediately halt such projects and protect the environment.

Environment activists Banu Prashanth, Aravind Sharma, Venkatasubbaiah, Gantaiah, S. Shylajesha, Prakash Babu, Banu Mohan and others were present at the protest.

Land owner reacts

When contacted by *Star of Mysore*, Akash Kumar of Bengaluru, who claims to be the owner of the land, said he had purchased the property about 14 years ago and possesses all the relevant documents.

"My purchase and the conversion of the land into a commercial zone are fully legal," he said, adding that the documents would be produced at an appropriate time. He, however, did not share the records over the phone.

KSRTC to run special buses for festivals

Bengaluru, Mar.16 (KMS&DM)- With the summer festival season set to begin with Ugadi festival falling on Mar. 19 and Ramzan festival on Mar. 21, the KSRTC will operate 2,000 additional buses on several Inter-State and Intra-State routes for meeting passenger rush this week.

The KSRTC will run special buses from the State capital Bengaluru to destinations such as Dharmasthala, Kukke Subramanya, Shivamogga, Mysuru, Hunsur, Periyapatna, Virajpet, Kushalnagar, Madikeri, Hassan, Mangaluru, Kundapur, Sringeri, Horanadu, Davangere, Hubballi-Dharwad, Belagavi,Vijayapura, Gokarna, Sirsi, Karwar, Raichur, Ballari, Kalaburagi, Koppal, Yadgir, Bidar etc. and to destinations outside the State such as Tirupati, Vijayawada, Hyderabad etc. These special buses will operate between Mar. 18 and 20 from Bengaluru and on Mar. 22 from different destinations to Bengaluru.

Passengers can avail a five percent discount on ticket prices for bulk booking of four or more seats and 10 percent discount on guaranteed To and Fro booking of seats.

Domestic help's house burgled; gold worth Rs. 1.44 lakh stolen

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MK&BCT)- A theft case has been registered at Vijayanagar Police Station after gold ornaments worth about Rs. 1.44 lakh were stolen from a house in Chamundeshwari Nagar.

The complaint was filed on Mar. 9 by 27-year-old Saraswathi, wife of Siddappaji and a resident of Chamundeshwari Nagar behind Belawadi Church. She lives with her two children and works as a domestic help.

Originally from Hiribeguru village in Chamarajanagar district, Saraswathi married Siddappaji about six to seven years ago and came to Mysuru. However, she has been living separately now with her children after her husband left.

On Mar. 8, Saraswathi left her house at around 6.45 am for work after asking her elder son to lock the door. When she returned home at about 9 am, she found her children playing outside the house.

On entering the house, she discovered that gold ornaments kept on top of the refrigerator, a pair of gold earrings weighing 4 grams and a gold chain weighing 8 grams, were missing.

Her elder son reportedly told her that an unknown 'budbudke' man had entered the house while they were playing outside and left after some time. Saraswathi suspected that the intruder might have stolen the ornaments during that period.

Based on the complaint, Vijayanagar Police have registered a case and are investigating to trace the culprit and recover the stolen jewellery.

Man loses Rs. 2.71 lakh via OTP transactions

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MK&BCT)- A case of cyber fraud has been registered at Metagalli Police Station after a resident lost Rs. 2,71,662 from his bank account through unauthorised OTP transactions.

In his complaint, M. Jayashankar, a resident of Bhyraveshwara Nagar, stated that he received multiple OTP messages on his mobile phone around 8.30 pm on Mar. 8. Soon after, he noticed SMS alerts indicating that money had been debited from his bank account. Suspecting that his phone had been hacked, he immediately switched it off.

The next day, Mar. 9, Jayashankar visited the Canara Bank branch at Belagola Industrial Area, where bank officials confirmed that his account had been compromised and Rs. 2,71,662 had been fraudulently withdrawn.

After obtaining his account statement, he lodged a formal complaint with the Police on Mar. 11. Jayashankar also reported the incident to the National Cybercrime Helpline (1930).

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL....

Nishat & Misba turn *Panache* into one of Mysuru's most loved fashion exhibitions...

Sisters with PANACHE

Nishat Mohsin and Misba Umrean, Co-founders of the fashion exhibition platform 'Panache', have been curating memorable fashion experiences in Mysuru for several years.

What began as a modest initiative has grown into one of the city's most-loved fashion exhibitions, offering a thoughtfully curated experience while bringing designers and fashion enthusiasts under one roof.

Alongside its successful editions in Mysuru, 'Panache' has also travelled to Bengaluru and Coorg in collaboration with several high-end brands.

While successfully steering 'Panache', the duo also balances their entrepreneurial journey with family life and personal passions.

Nishat, born in Bengaluru & raised in Mysuru, is married to a businessman and is a mother of two who enjoys designing spaces and nurturing plants.

Misba, born in Mysuru and now based in Bengaluru, is a B.Com graduate, married to a Bengaluru-based professional and a mother of three who enjoys travel, adventure sports and cooking.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, **the sisters open up about their journey, inspiration and vision behind 'Panache': "Fashion is not just about clothing, it's about creativity, craftsmanship and giving designers a platform to shine." —Ed**

By Shadan Muneer

Star of Mysore (SOM): How did the fashion extravaganza** Panache **begin? And what inspired you both to venture into fashion exhibition curation?

Nishat Mohsin and Misba Umrean: 'Panache' was envisioned by Nishat in 2008 as an intimate platform connecting designers with fashion enthusiasts. When Misba joined in 2009, the exhibition gained new momentum and gradually evolved into a celebrated fashion destination.

Coming from business-oriented families, we always aspired to create something of our own. Our journey into exhibition curation is driven by a deep appreciation for fashion not just as clothing, but for the creativity and craftsmanship behind it. Through 'Panache', we've had the joy of bringing ideas to life while giving designers a platform to shine.

SOM: Mysuru is known for its legacy of royalty and rich cultural identity. Do you think Mysureans have a unique fashion sense? And when it comes to style, what defines them more, silk sarees or contemporary fashion trends?

Nishat and Misba: Absolutely. Mysureans have a refined and graceful sense of style. Silk sarees hold a special place; they're timeless, elegant and deeply rooted in tradition. At the same time, they embrace contemporary styles and modern silhouettes with equal grace. What makes their style truly distinctive is this seamless blend of heritage and modernity, marked by elegance and understated sophistication.

SOM: In your opinion, how has the representation of women in fashion events evolved over the years?

Nishat and Misba: The evolution has been remarkable. While women were once seen mainly as participants or models, today they lead as designers, entrepreneurs and key decision-makers, shaping the industry.

Fashion platforms have become powerful spaces for women to express their creativity and vision through their brands, and it's inspiring to witness and contribute to this evolution.

SOM: How has the role of social media and digital platforms changed how fashion exhibitions are promoted and experienced?

Nishat and Misba: Social media have introduced a new dimension to fashion exhibitions. Promotions that once relied on word of mouth now reach audiences instantly. Digital platforms create anticipation even before the event begins, allowing us to connect with our audience early and extend the energy of the exhibition beyond its closing day.

SOM: What has been your most memorable exhibition moment? Have you encountered a last-minute crisis? How do you navigate them?

Nishat and Misba: Some of the most memorable moments are often the simplest. Watching a designer sell out, or a visitor finding exactly what they were looking for, is priceless.

Naturally, live events come with their share of challenges, from logistical hurdles to unexpected technical setbacks. Over the years, there have been many last-minute surprises and we address them with composure, teamwork & mutual trust.

SOM: How do you ensure smooth collaboration among teams and what defines the success of an exhibition for you?

Nishat and Misba: Effective collaboration begins with clear communication and mutual respect. We involve designers, production, and marketing teams from the very beginning. So, everyone feels aligned and valued.

For us, the success of an exhibition goes beyond numbers. It lies in the connections created when designers feel supported, visitors leave inspired and the continued trust people place in 'Panache' year after year.

SOM: How do you stay calm and manage stress when the event date is approaching?

Nishat and Misba: As the event date approaches, there is always a certain rush, but over the years with 'Panache', we have learnt that staying calm is a conscious choice. Careful planning helps minimise last-minute stress. A quiet prayer, deep breaths and trusting our team help us stay grounded and we believe that positive energy always reflects in the event.

SOM: What advice would you give someone who wants to break into fashion or event management?

Nishat and Misba: Fashion and event management may appear glamorous, but they require discipline, patience and emotional intelligence. Start small, build genuine relationships and stay consistent, as reputation is paramount. Above all, understand people, fashion is not just about clothing, but about emotions and confidence.

SOM: What message would you like to share with women this Women's Day?

Nishat and Misba: To every woman, we would say that strength is not defined by others; it lies in your ambition and compassion. Celebrate your achievements without guilt, dream beyond your fears and never diminish yourself to make others comfortable. Your journey simply needs to be your own.

Nishat Mohsin (sitting) with her younger sister Misba Umrean.

MCC officials accused of holding same posts for years

Former Corporator SBM Manju, who is also City JD(S) President, seen addressing the press meet in city this morning as (from left) JD(S) leader Prakash, former Corporator Prema Shankaregowda, former Mayor M.J. Ravikumar, JD(S) leader Srinivas, ex-Corporators M.U. Subbaiah and Rangaswamy look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (GA&DM)- Accusing the officials of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) of sticking on to the same post for years in violation of the Government's transfer rules, either by paying money or lobbying or using high influence, the newly elected City JD(S) President and former Corporator SBM Manju has urged the Government to immediately transfer such officers for a better administration.

Addressing a press meet at Patrakarthara Bhavan here this morning, Manju also flagged the wayward and bizarre appointments in the MCC, by citing the recent appointment of an Engineer for Health Officer's post in the MCC.

e-Katha issue and cable laying works

Lashing out at the MCC for lapses and prolonged delays in e-Katha issuance, he also strongly objected to the CESC's underground cable laying works, terming it as unscientific and improper.

Urging the Government to take immediate measures for ending the technical glitches in the e-Katha software, Manju alleged rampant corruption in postings to key posts in the MCC.

Former BJP Corporator M.U. Subbaiah accused the MCC authorities of throwing all norms to the wind in the appointment of Sanitary Supervisors.

Charging that MCC Wards are not getting funds after the tenure of the elected body of the MCC ended three years ago, he demanded that all Wards be allotted funds for developmental works.

Former Mayor M.J. Ravikumar (Chinni Ravi), who also spoke, said that the authorities were installing traffic signals across the city indiscreetly.

Charging the MCC officials of not bothering to consult the public or ex-Corporators on the issue, he alleged that the MCC Commissioner and the City Police Commissioner were taking unilateral decisions on the installation of traffic signals, which are being taken up in an unscientific manner.

Accusing the MCC Commissioner of spending funds generally for only N.R. Assembly segment, which is represented by the ruling Congress, Ravikumar said that the MCC Commissioner seems to have forgotten the existence of other Assembly segments in the city.

Continuing, he said that the MCC, which is holding mega events such as Walkathons and Marathons once a week as part of 'Swachh Mysuru' campaign, the former Mayor alleged that Pourakarmikas, who are key for maintenance of cleanliness, are not paid salaries regularly.

He also urged the MCC to resume the works on 'Bayalu Rangamandira' (Open Air theatre) in Town Hall premises, which has stopped abruptly.

Another former Corporator Prema Shankaregowda accused the MCC Commissioner of not picking phones of ex-Corporators and elected representatives. Questioning the attitude of the Commissioner, she alleged that he had totally failed in connecting with the public for understanding their problems and grievances.

Footpath becomes Tonga Stand!

(Continued from page 1)

The project, implemented by Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited (KTIL), aims to improve infrastructure, enhance visitor experience and promote the city's heritage and culture. Tourists will also be provided with information on historical landmarks as they travel through heritage zones in tonga. The initiative is expected to promote sustainable tourism and boost the local economy.

Why footpath, question public

However, citizens have strongly opposed the construction of the Experience Centre on the pedestrian pathway near Mysore Palace, a heritage zone. Residents argue that converting footpaths into tonga stands is unscientific and irresponsible, as it could affect pedestrian safety, disrupt traffic flow and inconvenience visitors.

The MCC has issued NOCs for 'Tonga Experience Centres' at Varaha Gate Tonga Stand, Balarama Gate Tonga Stand, Mysuru Zoo entrance, Kukkarahalli Lake Stable and Nazarbad Stable. These centres are expected to form the Kukkarahalli Lake Circuit, Shah Pasand Maharaja Circuit and Maharaja Circuit, each with separate routes and pricing for tourists.

MCC Commissioner unavailable

MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif was unavailable for comment. However, sources within the MCC said, the NOC had been issued because the proposal seeking approval had not specified that the 'Tonga Experience Centre' would be constructed on a footpath.

"As soon as the MCC came to know that the footpath was being used for construction, the work was immediately stopped," an official said on condition of anonymity.

Tourism Department clarification

Assistant Director of Tourism Prabhuswamy said that the project is being implemented and supervised by Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited, while the local Tourism Department is only a facilitator.

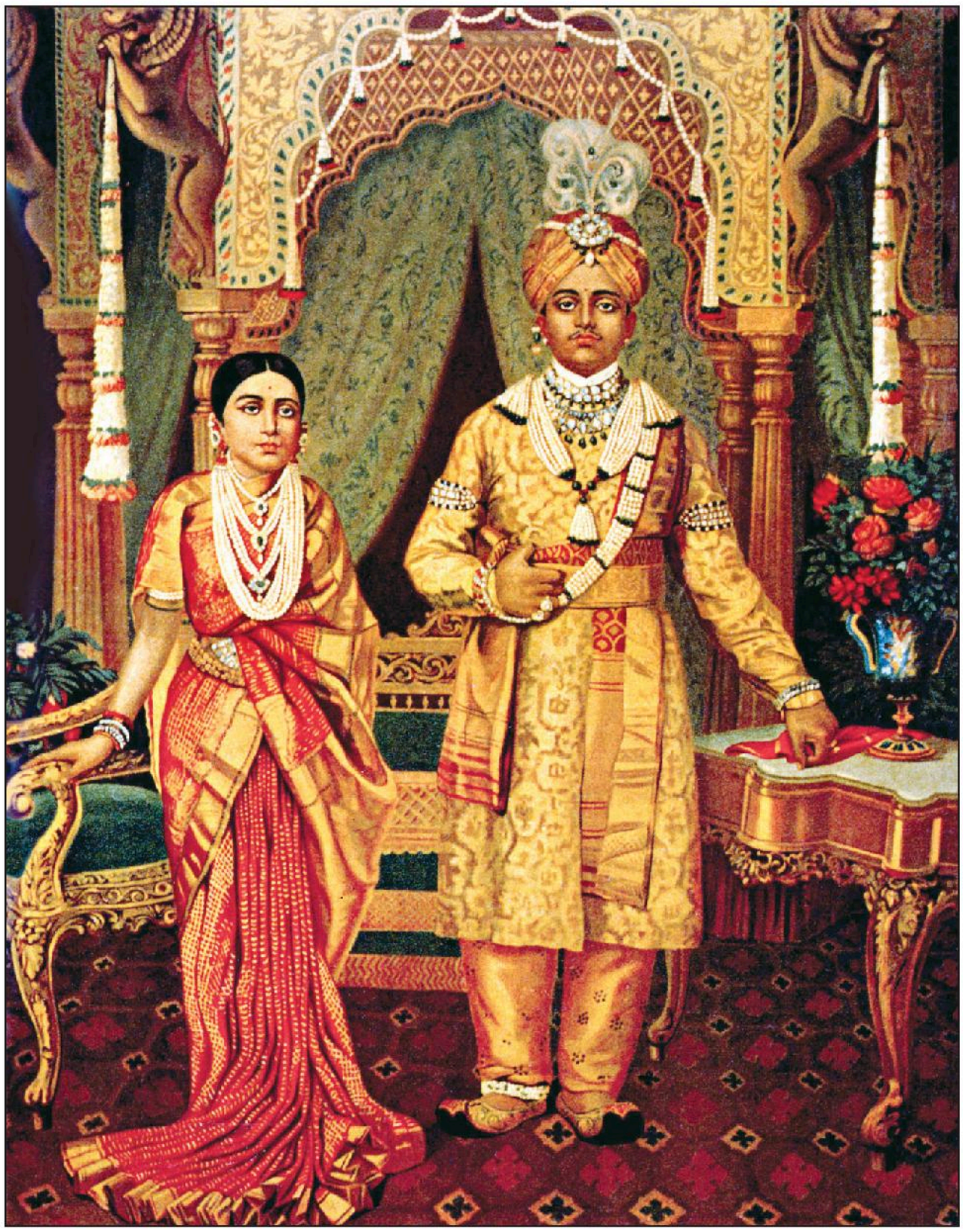
"The work at the site has now been stopped. I came to know only last night that the footpath was being used for the construction," he said.

Heritage guidelines very clear

The Heritage Committee guidelines are very clear. No concrete construction is permitted within the heritage zone, which extends up to 100 metres from Mysore Palace. The entire stretch covering Albert Victor Road, Town Hall, Ashoka Road, Harsha Road, K.R. Circle, Chamaraja Circle and the surrounding Palace area falls within this heritage zone. I am surprised how the MCC could grant permission to encroach upon a footpath in such an area. I will personally inspect the spot this evening.

— Prof. N.S. Rangaraju, retired Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology and Member, District Heritage Committee

Vintage Vignettes
... from a Princely State



By R.G. Singh
Secretary, Ramsons Kala Pratishtana

Raja Ravi Varma painted the official wedding portrait of the royal couple H.H. Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadiyar Bahadur IV and H.H. Maharani Sri Pratapa Kumari Lakshmi Vilasa Sannidhana; the oil on canvas portrait is in the collection of Mysore Royal family. Featured alongside is the 61x76 cms sized chromolithograph, printed in Germany (in three sizes). This popular print can still be seen at Bhajana Mandiras and residences of aristocrats in Mysuru. The wedding took place on 6 June 1900 at Jaganmohan Palace where a large hall was specially constructed for this wedding as the main Palace was under construction.

This chromolithograph depicts the sixteen-year-old Maharaja with his eleven-year-old royal consort. The invitation in Kannada reads the bride's name as Chi. Sou. Ku. Pratap Kuvari, daughter of Jhala Rana Vinay Simha (he belonged to a family of Parmar Rajputs of Saurashtra). Whereas, the official version in the 'History of Mysore' by Hayavadana Rao states the details as Maharani Pratapa Kumari Ammanni avaru Lakshmi Vilasa Sannidhana (born 1889), youngest daughter of Rana Sri Bane Sinhji Saheb, Rana Sahib of Muli (Vana) in Kathiawar region of Western India.

Size: 61x76 cms
Collection: Ramsons Kala Pratishtana

Ensure 100% registration of births, deaths: ADC

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (DM) - Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Dr. P. Shivaraju has directed officials to ensure 100 percent registration of births and deaths in the district.

Dr. P. Shivaraju

He was speaking after presiding over the District-level Coordination Committee meeting on Births and Deaths Registration at the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Siddarthanagar recently.

Pointing out that the district had received a State-level appreciation certificate from the Government for achieving 100 percent registration of births and deaths over the past three months, Dr. Shivaraj said all births must be registered within 21 days.

He noted that Cheluvamba Hospital and PKTB&CD Hospital in Mysuru, T. Narasipur Taluk Hospital and H.D. Kote Taluk Hospital had achieved 100 percent registration of births without delay. However, Nanjangud Taluk Hospital, Hunsur CMC, Nanjangud CMC, T. Narasipur TMC and MCC Zonal Offices 2 and 8 had reported delayed registrations.

Dr. Shivaraju directed officials not to collect any fee from the public for delayed registration. Instead, the responsibility should be fixed on the concerned officials, he said, adding that officials should bear the penalty so that they work more responsibly.

He further stated that deaths must also be registered within 21 days.

Pointing out delays in death registrations in Kadakola, Srirampura, Rammanahalli and Bogadi Town Panchayats, Hootagalli CMC, Mysuru's K.R. Hospital, MCC Zonal Offices 2, 6 and 9, Nanjangud CMC and K.R. Nagar, Periyapatna and Bannur TMCs, he said Kadakola TMC had recorded the lowest performance, with 92.8 percent delay and a notice would be issued to it.

The ADC also instructed officials to take action against PDOs of Gram Panchayats responsible for delays and to organise training programmes for staff on timely registration of births and deaths.

District Statistical Officer R. Chitra, Assistant Statistical Officers Ganesh and S. Sandhya, Joint Director of Horticulture Suresh Angadi, Deputy Director of Agriculture Manjunath, Assistant Director M.V. Honnegowda, District Reproductive and Child Health Officer (RCHO) Dr. Mohammed Siraj Ahmed, District Surgeon Dr. N.V. Satish, Tahsildar Ramprasad and other officials were present.

AIISH road friendly for specially-abled users

Volunteers of Greenpeace India seen painting road opposite All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) in Manasagangothri with symbols of access as part of Empathy Drive held in city yesterday.

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MTY&VNS)- The All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) junction on busy Bogadi Main Road and the road leading to JSS Science and Technology University Campus on Manasagangothri is among the busiest and most used roads in the city.

These roads are not only utilised by college and school-going students, but also by children with special needs and their parents, who visit AIISH campus for various treatments. Both parents and special children were facing issues as they were unable to move freely on the road or cross the road from one side to another.

In an effort to create a safe pass through, Bengaluru-based NGO Greenpeace India, along with other organisations and institutions such as Mysore School of Architecture (MSA), Mysore Grahakara Parishat (MGP), Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM), Rotaract among others, conducted a public survey to gather opinion on making the road specially-abled friendly.

As part of collective opinion, the volunteers painted zebra crossing and empathy lines on the road and footpaths located in front of AIISH yesterday morning to create awareness among the general public.

Pink and sky-blue colours

The volunteers painted a pink line on the road for the use of specially-abled children and their parents visiting AIISH. A sky-blue coloured line was painted on the footpath located opposite AIISH to create a safe space for the pedestrians from the street vendors.

Pictures of International Symbol of Access (ISA) or wheelchair symbols and children with special needs were drawn as zebra crossing to allow easy access for road crossing.

A green and white line with 'Slow Down' message was also drawn at a distance of 200 mts from AIISH gate sending a message for motorists to slow down the speed to enable the pedestrians to cross the road.

Speaking on the occasion, Greenpeace India representative Deepak Srinivasan said that the road was being used by parents with special kids to visit AIISH for various treatments.

"A special public audit was conducted and based on the feedback, empathy lines have been drawn on the road to create awareness and to reclaim the space for the specially-abled after getting clearance from the experts," he added.

MSA Dean and Director Dr. H.S. Champa, Greenpeace India's Climate & Energy Campaigner Selomi Garnaik, MGP President Roy Joseph and others were present on the occasion.

ASMITA Khelo India Women's Swimming League

City swimmers shine

Mysuru, Mar. 16 - Swimmers of Marlin Aquatic Centre excelled in the recently concluded ASMITA Khelo India Women's Swimming League in city.

Leading the charge was Kashvi Kaveramma, who emerged as the star performer winning four gold medals.

Meanwhile, K. Panishka, Y. Ayushi, Vimarsha R. Gowda, G.S. Anwitha Sai, A. Rishika Tani, Aditi B.C. Gowda won 4 gold, 6 silver and 4 bronze medals.

Medal winners

Kashvi Kaveramma: 4 gold medals in 50 mts butterfly, 50 mts breaststroke, 100 mts breaststroke and 100 mts freestyle.

K. Panishka: 1 gold in 50 mts butterfly, 2 silver in 50 mts breaststroke and 50 mts freestyle and 1 bronze medal in 50 mts backstroke.

Vimarsha R. Gowda: 3 gold in 100 mts butterfly, 50 mts backstroke and 100 mts backstroke and 1 bronze medal in 50 mts butterfly.

G.S. Anwitha Sai: 1 silver in 50 mts butterfly.

Y. Ayushi: 1 silver in 50 mts freestyle, 1 bronze in 50 mts backstroke.

A. Rishika Tani: 1 bronze medal in 25 mts backstroke.

Aditi B.C. Gowda: 2 silver in 25 mts butterfly and 25 mts freestyle.

The medal-swimming swimmers train under K.S. Mahesha, Raghu, Srinivas and Kemparaju.

ITF J60 Juniors World Ranking Tennis Tournament

Padmapriya finishes runner-up

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MTY&VNS)- City's Padmapriya Ramesh Kumar finished runner-up in the ITF J60 Juniors World Ranking Tennis Tournament held at Gurugram in Haryana yesterday.

In the all Karnataka finals, 13-year-old Padmapriya lost to 17-year-old, No. 2 seed Snigdha Kanda of Bengaluru with a score of 4-6, 4-6. She performed well and made her to run full court, but could not get the crucial points during 4-4 and 4-5 in both the sets.

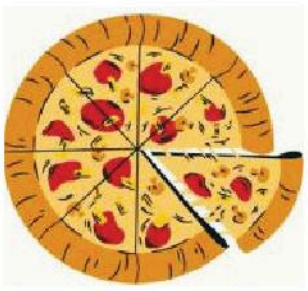
Padmapriya played well in the entire tournament showing her grit. She defeated No. 1 seed Prisha Shinde with 6-4, 6-1 in the semi-finals, No. 6 seed Angel Patel 6-3, 6-4 in the quarter-finals. Padmapriya did not drop a single set till the semi-finals displaying her dominance over top seeded players.

Daughter of Dr. P. Ramesh Kumar, Chief Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger), Mysuru and Dr. Malathi Priya, Chief Conservator of Forests (Chamarajanagar Circle), Padmapriya trains under Coach Raghuveer Ponnuswamy, Pawan and Sagar (fitness coach) in Mysuru. She is a Class 8 student at Excel Public School in city.

Padmapriya Ramesh Kumar

WORD OF THE DAY

Tranche



Pronunciation: TRAHNSH (noun)
Meaning: Tranche refers to a division or portion of a whole.
Origin: In French, tranche means "slice." Cutting deeper into the word's etymology, we find the Old French word trenchier, meaning "to cut," which has its likely origin in a Latin word meaning "to cut in three," from Latin trini meaning "three each." Tranche emerged in the English language in the late 19th century to refer to a division or portion of a larger pool or whole and later developed a finance-specific meaning referring to an offering for sale of typically a set of bonds "cut" from a larger group of bonds, the tranche being differentiated by such factors as maturity or rate of return.
Example: "Congress approved an initial tranche of funding legislation in November as the longest shutdown in history came to an end." —Kaia Hubbard, CBS News, 16 Dec. 2025.

THE ODD WORD

Kainotophobia

Fear of change.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Beat a dead horse

Meaning: You use the term 'Beat a dead horse' to indicate that some action or ongoing argument is useless.
Origin: The origin of the expression 'Beat a dead horse' comes from the mid-19th century, when the practice of beating horses to make them go faster was often viewed as acceptable. To beat a dead horse would be pointless, as it wouldn't be able to go anywhere. An early written form of this popular phrase is found in an 1859 issue of the London paper *Watchman and Wesleyan Advertiser:* "It was notorious that Mr. Bright was dissatisfied with his winter reform campaign and rumour said that he had given up his effort with the exclamation that it was like flogging a dead horse."
Example: "He already told you no; don't beat a dead horse."

QUOTE BOX

Love takes off masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within. **—James Baldwin**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

STORM
TH

Answer: Thunderstorm (Th under storm).

SUDOKU

7	4			2		3		
			4		5		8	
			9			6		
4			3				9	5
8	6				7			2
		9			8			
	5		6		4			
		4		1			3	8

Answer to previous puzzle

4	3	5	8	9	6	7	2	1
7	2	6	3	1	4	9	8	5
9	1	8	2	7	5	4	6	3
2	8	4	1	5	3	6	9	7
5	9	1	4	6	7	2	3	8
3	6	7	9	8	2	5	1	4
6	5	3	7	2	1	8	4	9
1	7	9	6	4	8	3	5	2
8	4	2	5	3	9	1	7	6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

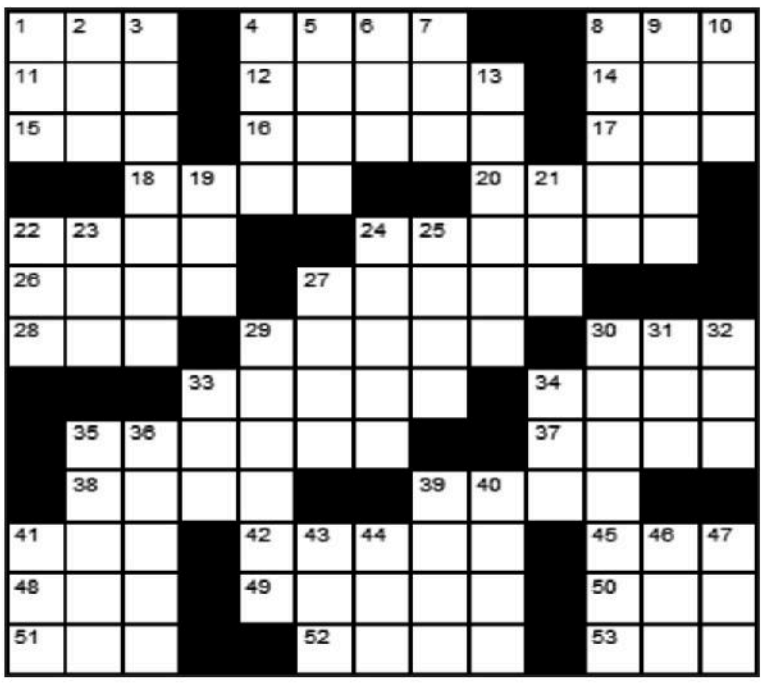
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Alcoholic Anonymous Association, should we say?
4 Noisome
8 Supplemental Type Certificate
11 Strange
12 Mr Modi of IPL fame
14 For each
15 Powdery residue
16 Aquatic animal
17 Resistance unit
18 Units of work
20 Shivering fit
22 Zeus' wife
24 Find position of
26 Not kosher
27 Spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs
28 Condl. Access Sys.
29 Coils as of hair
30 Afternoon refresher of local origin?
33 Narrow street
34 French fry
35 Foray, raid
37 Make a grating sound or say gratingly?
38 God (French)
39 Rise or ascend (2,2)
41 Satellite Landing Sys.
42 Berate
45 Two-year old sheep
48 Relatives, family
49 Flowed away
50 Green prefix?
51 Hail as to Maria
52 Violates a law of God
53 "Bad Behaviour" star Stephen

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

F	I	R			T	W	A		B	I	E	R
E	D	E			H	R	T		E	N	V	Y
D	I	S	C	R	E	E	T		A	R	E	A
		E	N	U	N	C	I	A	T	E	S	
T	W	A	N	G		K	R	I	S			
D	O	R					E	D	U	C	E	
S	E	C	T	O	R		D	E	P	E	N	D
	S	H	E	R	A				L	D	S	
			S	N	I	P		D	E	I	S	M
	O	U	T	O	N	A	L	I	M	B		
O	M	R	I			I	N	A	S	T	A	T	E
M	I	E	N			N	D	B			C	O	T
S	T	A	G			G	A	S			Y	E	S

DOWN
1 Angle-of-attack, abbr.
2 Some promos
3 Sticks fast
4 Sell or whip
5 Seeds of the annual grass Avena sativa?
6 Of last month, in short, in correspondence
7 Untruth, fib
8 Jet of water
9 Titter - "E thee" anagram?
10 Cockpit Resource Mgmnt.
13 Pamphlets; plots
19 British airforce in short
21 A cooking fuel
22 Taiwanese cellphone manufacturer
23 Period or age
24 Enticed
25 Greasy
27 Enterprise helmsman
29 Group of words
30 Part of book
31 Opposite of hers
32 Smartphone program
33 To be - a change of "era"?
34 French vineyard -"cur" anagram?
35 Ovid's 1,554
36 Oise tributary
39 Valley, dale
40 Betting price
41 Jamaican popular music
43 TV network
44 Kimono sash
46 Eco. Comm. of Europe
47 Tibetan gazelle



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

RK JSBP YW VNSHSBU NP SJSYPL, KYO VOB PAZ

VSLQ YW RZXYDSBU SJSYPSX KYOVLZHW.

TODAY'S CLUE: U EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: He's the kind of bore who's here today and here tomorrow.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** Ph: 2520494
  Hayagrriva (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** Mob: 99008-20093
  Rakkasapuradhol (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** Ph: 2521923
  Vadam (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** Ph: 2422871
  The Rise of Ashoka (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** Ph: 2443568
  Sampathige Savaal (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** Mob: 98454-14691
  O' Romeo (H) - 3 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** Ph: 2420885
  Majestic-2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** Ph: 2423554
  Kanchana 2 (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** Mob: 98863-25207
  O' Romeo 3 (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	(S-1)	10.00 am, 1.20 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.00 pm, 9.50 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	(S-3)	10.50 am, 1.30 pm
Hayagrriva (K)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	(S-3)	7.25 pm
Aakash (K)	(S-4)	10.55 am, 1.40 pm, 4.25 pm, 7.05 pm 9.30 pm

MOVIES AT MYC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Akash (K)	:	1.30 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.30 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Akash (K)	:	11.45 am, 3.00 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.10 pm, 4.20 pm, 8.30 pm
Marty Supreme (E)	:	12.55 pm, 6.40 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	1.45 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.15 pm, 10.00 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	2.00 pm, 7.25 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	4.00 pm
Hayagrriva (K)	:	4.20 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	9.45 pm
Thaai Kizhavi (Ta)	:	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Akash (K)	:	11.00 am, 2.15 pm, 5.30 pm, 8.45 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	11.05 am, 3.20 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	11.10 am, 4.50 pm, 8.30 pm
Thaai Kizhavi (Ta)	:	1.50 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	6.05 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	9.00 pm

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Akash (K)	:	11.15 am, 2.30 pm, 5.45 pm, 9.00 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	11.40 am
Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.00 pm, 5.35 pm
Sesha 2016 (K)	:	3.00 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	4.10 pm, 9.15 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	6.55 pm
Thaai Kizhavi (Ta)	:	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Dhurandhar (H)	:	12.10 pm, 4.20 pm, 8.30 pm
Akash (K)	:	12.40 pm, 2.40 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
The Kerala Story 2 Goes Beyond (H)	:	12.45 pm, 3.30 pm, 6.15 pm, 9.00 pm
Hoppers (E)	:	3.55 pm
Maggi Pusthaka (K)	:	5.55 pm
Kanchana 2 (Te)	:	9.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

Free HPV Vaccination Drive launched at Bharath Cancer Hospital

On the Occasion of Women's Day
FREE HPV VACCINATION DRIVE
Inauguration Ceremony
FREE HPV vaccination for the First 200 Registrations

Dr. Nagalakshmi Choudhary, Chairperson of the Karnataka State Women's Commission, who launched a free HPV vaccination drive at Bharath Cancer Hospital in city on Friday, is seen with cancer survivors and others.

Mysuru, Mar. 16- As part of International Women's Day celebrations, Dr. Nagalakshmi Choudhary, Chairperson of the Karnataka State Women's Commission, launched a free HPV vaccination drive at the Bharath Hospital and Institute of Oncology (BHIO) — Bharath Cancer Hospital — in Mysuru on Friday.

The initiative, introduced by Dr. B.S. Ajaikumar, Chairman of BHIO, aims to create awareness about cervical cancer prevention and promote preventive healthcare among women. Under the programme, free HPV vaccination will be provided to the first 200 registered beneficiaries.

Speaking after launching free HPV vaccination drive, Karnataka State Women's Commission Chairperson Dr. Nagalakshmi Choudhary expressed happiness over the launch of the free HPV vaccination initiative and said, it was a matter of pride to inaugurate such a meaningful programme. She appreciated the effort to provide free HPV vaccines to the first 200 women who register for the drive.

Dr. Choudhary also stressed that while medicines, injections and surgeries are important in cancer treatment, emotional support and encouragement are equally vital. "Love, care and confidence given to patients can act as powerful medicine and help them fight the disease," she noted.

She commended Bharath Hospital for extending free and subsidised treatment to needy patients and said service done with genuine concern, not publicity, truly brings success.

Referring to the International Women's Day theme 'Rights, Justice and Action,' she urged women to be aware of their rights and stand up for justice.

Highlighting the seriousness of the disease, Dr. C.B. Avinash, Chief Medical Oncologist, BHIO, said, cervical cancer continues to be a major health concern for women. "Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women globally. In India, more women die from cervical cancer than in any other country. It is a common yet often ignored disease. Every year, around 1.23 lakh women are newly diagnosed with cervical cancer in India and nearly 67,500 of them succumb to the disease. However, it is entirely preventable with timely vaccination and awareness." The vaccine is most effective for girls and boys aged between 9-14 years with the catch up options available up to age 26 or up to 45 after consulting doctors.

Gowtham Dhamerla, Chief Operating Officer of BHIO, added that the initiative has been undertaken under the guidance of Dr. Ajaikumar to promote preventive healthcare. "We have decided to provide free HPV vaccination to the first 200 registrations. **The vaccination drive will be conducted at the new Day Care Clinic of BHIO in Kuvempunagar** and women are encouraged to register early to avail themselves of the benefit," he said.

Cancer survivors were also present in good numbers on the occasion and made the event more meaningful and colourful. Dr. Nagalakshmi felicitated all the cancer survivors on the occasion.

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 17)

- **Department of Studies (DoS) in Social Work, University of Mysore (UoM) and Bodhi Vruksha Society for Development, Mysuru:** International Social Work Day 2026, Prof. C. Parvathamma Memorial Lecture, Dr. Banjagere Jayaprakash, writer, former Chairman, Kannada Book Authority, inaugurates and delivers keynote address; Dr. S. Srikanth, Director, DEED, Hunsur, delivers Memorial Lecture-1; Prof. Sudha Khokate, Professor & Chairman, Department of Sociology, Jnanabharati, Bangalore University, delivers Memorial Lecture-2; M.S. Chandra, President, Bodhi Vruksha Society for Development, Mysuru and AHINDA Javarappa, Activist and Social Worker, Mysuru, guests of honour, Prof. R. Shivappa, Senior Professor and Chairman, DoS in Social Work, UoM, Manasagangothri, Mysuru, presides, Prof. Chandramouli, DoS in Social Work, UoM and Prof. H.P. Jyothi, Director-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, UoM, will be present, DoS in Social Work, University of Mysore, **10.30 am.**
- **University of Mysore, Consortium for Educational Communication, New Delhi and EMRC, Manasagangothri:** National Seminar on 'Transforming Education for the Future Intelligent, Inclusive and Immersive Learning,' Bahadur Institute of Management Studies (BIMS), Hunsur Road, **10.30 am.**
- **JSS Law College:** International Women's Day celebrations, Dr. Ramya Yethadka, Consultant Surgical Oncologist, Apollo BGS Hospital, Mysuru, chief guest; Felicitation to L. Narasu, Secretary, Lakku Foundation Trust for Special Children, Silver Jubilee Hall, College premises, Kuvempnagar, **2.30 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** Music concert in memory of eminent flautist and guru A.V. Prakash, flute recital by M.K. Navaneeth, accompanied by Vidu. Prithvi Bhaskar on violin, Vid. Vikram Bharadwaj on mridanga and Vid. Sharath Koushik on ghata, Sri Vidyabharathi Prarthana Mandira, Sri Chandramoulishwara Temple, V.V. Mohalla, **6 pm.**

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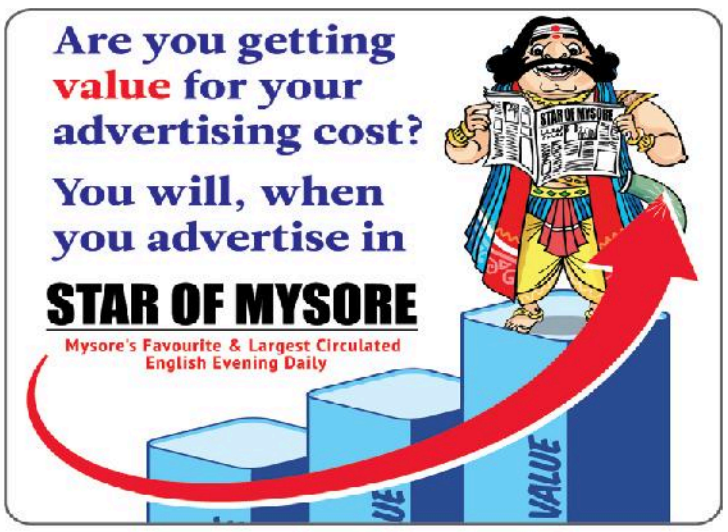
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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.